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Economic and Social Council

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Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-fourth session
28 February-2 March 2000
Item 2 of the provisional agenda*
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Status of documentation for the session

Note by the Secretary-General

1. By Economic and Social Council resolutions 1979/1 and 1979/69 on the control and limitation of documentation and 1988/77 on the revitalization of the Council, the Council reiterated that the Secretariat should circulate the relevant documentation in all the working languages six weeks before the opening of the sessions of the Council and its subsidiary organs, and invited the Secretariat to take steps to ensure effective compliance with rule 13, paragraph 4, of the rules of procedure of the Council.

2. By resolution 1979/69, the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretariat to inform the Council and its subsidiary bodies, in the relevant annotated agenda, which documents had not been issued in accordance with the six-week rule, with a full explanation of the reasons that prevented their circulation.

3. In view of the schedule of the forty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (28 February-2 March 2000), the documentation for the session should have been submitted to the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division of the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services by 20 December 1999 and circulated by 17 January 2000. The documents not circulated by that date are listed in the annex below.

* E/CN.6/2000/1.

00-30402 (E) 220200

Annex

Commission on the Status of Women: status of documentation as at 18 February 2000

Agenda item	*Title or description and symbol of document*	*Date of submission to the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division*	*Date of submission to the Central Planning and Coordination Service*	*Actual or projected date of issue*
2	Provisional agenda (E/CN.6/2000/1)	21 December 1999	19 January 2000	Issued
3 (a)	Report of the Secretary-General on follow-up to and implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (E/CN.6/2000/2)	31 December 1999	1 February 2000	Issued
3 (a)	Report of the Secretary-General on assessment of the implementation of the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 1996-2001 (E/CN.6/2000/3)	19 January 2000	26 January 2000	23 February 2000
3 (a)	Report of the Secretary-General on progress in improving the status of women in the Secretariat (E/CN.6/2000/4)	26 January 2000	27 January 2000	24 February 2000
5	Note by the Secretariat on follow-up to resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council (E/CN.6/2000/5)	16 February 2000	16 February 2000	25 February 2000
3 (a)	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting information provided by the United Nations Development Fund for Women on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/166 (E/CN.6/2000/6)	7 February 2000	7 February 2000	25 February 2000
3 (a)	Report of the Secretary-General on the joint work plan of the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (E/CN.6/2000/8-E/CN.4/2000/118	31 January 2000	2 February 2000	24 February 2000

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Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-fourth session
28 February-2 March 2000
Agenda item 3 (a)
Follow up to the Fourth World Conference on Women: review of mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system

Azerbaijan:* draft resolution

Release of women and children taken hostage, including those subsequently imprisoned, in armed conflicts

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling its resolutions 39/2 of 31 March 1995, 40/1 of 22 March 1996, 41/1 of 21 March 1997, 42/2 of 13 March 1998 and 43/1 of 12 March 1999,

Recalling also the relevant provisions contained in the instruments of international humanitarian law relative to the protection of women and children in areas of armed conflict,

Welcoming the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[1] including the provisions regarding violence against women and children,

Expressing grave concern at the continuation of armed conflicts in many regions throughout the world and the human suffering and humanitarian emergencies they have caused,

Emphasizing that all forms of violence committed against the civilian population, including women and children in areas of armed conflict, including capturing them as hostages, seriously contravene international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war,[2]

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] See *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13).

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 970-973.

00-31774 (E) 280200

Expressing its strong belief that the rapid and unconditional release of women and children taken hostage in areas of armed conflict will promote the implementation of the noble goals enshrined in the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action,

1. *Condemns* violent acts in contravention of international humanitarian law against civilian women and children in areas of armed conflict, and calls for an effective response to such acts, including the immediate release of such women and children taken hostage, including those subsequently imprisoned, in armed conflicts;

2. *Strongly urges* all parties to armed conflicts to respect fully the norms of international humanitarian law in armed conflict and to take all necessary measures for the protection of these women and children and for their immediate release;

3. *Urges* all parties to conflicts to provide unimpeded access to specialized humanitarian assistance for these women and children;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General and all relevant international organizations to use their capabilities and efforts to facilitate the release of these women and children;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, taking into account the information provided by States and relevant international organizations, a report on the implementation of the present resolution for submission to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-fifth session.

United Nations E/CN.6/2000/L.3

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Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-fourth session
28 February-2 March 2000
Agenda item 8
Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-fourth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Misako **Kaji** (Japan)

Chapter ___. Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Commission on the Status of Women held its forty-fourth session at United Nations Headquarters from 28 February to 2 March 2000. The Commission held eight meetings (1st to 8th).

2. The session was opened by the Chairperson of the forty-third session of the Commission, Patricia Flor (Germany), who also made a statement.

B. Attendance

3. The session was attended by representatives of ___ States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for non-member States, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations also attended. A list of participants is contained in annex ___ to the present report.

C. Election of officers

4. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 28 February, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairperson:	Dubravka Šimonović (Croatia)
Vice-Chairpersons:	Kirsten Geelan (Denmark) Misako Kaji (Japan) Loreto Leyton (Chile) Mankeur Ndiaye (Senegal)

5. At its 3rd meeting, on 29 February, the Commission designated Misako Kaji (Japan) Vice-Chairperson with rapporteurial responsibilities.

D. Agenda and organization of work

6. At its 1st meeting, on 28 February, the Commission adopted its provisional agenda and approved its organization of work, as contained in document E/CN.6/2000/1. The agenda was as follows:

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1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women:
   (a) Review of mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system;
   (b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men;
   (c) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in the critical areas of concern.
4. Comprehensive review and appraisal of the implementation of the Platform for Action.
5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions.
6. Communications concerning the status of women.
7. Provisional agenda for the forty-fifth session of the Commission.
8. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-fourth session.

E. Appointment of the members of a working group on communications on the status of women

7. The Commission established a working group to consider, under agenda item 6, communications concerning the status of women, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/27. The following five members, nominated by their regional groups, were appointed:

Mostafa Alaei (Islamic Republic of Iran)
Martha Franken (Belgium)
Lulit Zewdie G/Mariam (Ethiopia)
Rasa Ostrauskaite (Lithuania)
Eduardo Tapia (Chile)

F. Consultations with non-governmental organizations

8. Written statements, submitted by non-governmental organizations in accordance with rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council (E/5975/Rev.1), were circulated in documents E/CN.6/2000/NGO/1-14.

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Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-fourth session
28 February-2 March 2000
Agenda item 3 (a)
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women: review of mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system

Brazil, Canada,* Chile, Ecuador,* Germany, Ghana, Iceland,* Japan, Kenya,* Liechtenstein* and United States of America: draft resolution

Situation of women and girls in Afghanistan

The Economic and Social Council,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[2] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[3] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[4] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[5] the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[6] the Beijing Declaration[7] and Platform for Action,[8] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women, and other instruments of human rights and international humanitarian law,

Recalling that Afghanistan is a party to the Convention on the Prevention of the Crime of Genocide,[9] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[2] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[2] the

* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).
[2] General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[3] General Assembly resolution 39/46, annex.
[4] General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.
[5] General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.
[6] General Assembly resolution 48/104.
[7] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.
[8] Ibid., annex II.
[9] General Assembly resolution 260 A (III).

00-32106 (E) 290200

Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War,[10] and that it has signed the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Deeply concerned about the deteriorating economic and social conditions of women and girls in all areas of Afghanistan, in particular in areas under the control of the Taliban movement, as documented by the continued and substantiated reports of grave violations of the human rights of women and girls, including all forms of discrimination against them, such as restrictions on access to health care, to many levels and types of education, to employment outside the home and, at times, to humanitarian aid, as well as restrictions on their freedom of movement,

Welcoming the ongoing work of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan, in particular his special focus on violations of the human rights of women and girls, especially in territories under the control of the Taliban faction,

Noting with concern the detrimental impact of these harmful conditions on the well-being of Afghan women and the children in their care,

Welcoming the inter-agency gender mission to Afghanistan in November 1997, conducted by the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, taking into account the report of the mission and hoping that the mission will serve as a model for future efforts to address the gender dimension of crisis/conflict situations,

Expressing its appreciation for the international community's support of and solidarity with the women and girls of Afghanistan, being supportive of the women of Afghanistan who protest against violations of their human rights, and encouraging women and men worldwide to continue efforts to draw attention to their situation and to promote the immediate restoration of their ability to enjoy their human rights,

1. *Condemns* the continuing grave violations of the human rights of women and girls, including all forms of discrimination against them, in all areas of Afghanistan, particularly in areas under the control of the Taliban;

2. *Also condemns* the restrictions on women's access to health care and the systematic violation of the human rights of women in Afghanistan, including the restrictions on access to education and to employment outside the home, freedom of movement, and freedom from intimidation, harassment and violence, which has a serious detrimental effect on the well-being of Afghan women and the children in their care;

3. *Urges* the Taliban and other Afghan parties to recognize, protect, promote and act in accordance with all human rights and fundamental freedoms, regardless of gender, ethnicity or religion, in accordance with international human rights instruments, and to respect international humanitarian law;

4. *Urges* all the Afghan parties, in particular the Taliban, to bring to an end without delay all human rights violations against women and girls and to take urgent measures to ensure:

[10] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

(a) The repeal of all legislative and other measures that discriminate against women and girls and those which impede the realization of all their human rights;

(b) The effective participation of women in civil, cultural, economic, political and social life throughout the country;

(c) Respect for the equal right of women to work and their reintegration in employment;

(d) The equal right of women and girls to education without discrimination, the reopening of schools and the admission of women and girls to all levels of education;

(e) Respect for the right of women to security of person and that those responsible for physical attacks on women are brought to justice;

(f) Respect for freedom of movement for women;

(g) Respect for women's and girls' effective and equal access to the facilities necessary to protect their right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health;

5. *Encourages* the continuing efforts of the United Nations, international and non-governmental organizations and donors to ensure that all United Nations-assisted programmes in Afghanistan are formulated and coordinated in such a way as to promote and ensure the participation of women in those programmes and that women benefit equally with men from such programmes;

6. *Appeals* to all States and to the international community to ensure that all humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan, in conformity with the Strategic Framework for Afghanistan, is based on the principle of non-discrimination, integrates a gender perspective, and actively attempts to promote the participation of both women and men and to promote peace and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

7. *Urges* States to continue to give special attention to the promotion and protection of the human rights of women in Afghanistan and to maintain a gender perspective in all aspects of their policies and actions related to Afghanistan;

8. *Welcomes* the establishment of the positions of Gender Adviser and Human Rights Adviser at the United Nations Office of the Resident Coordinator for Afghanistan, in order to ensure more effective consideration and implementation of human rights and gender concerns in all United Nations programmes within Afghanistan, taking into account the recommendations contained in the report of the inter-agency gender mission to Afghanistan conducted by the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women in November 1997;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the visit of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, and looks forward to her conclusions and recommendations;

10. *Urges* the Secretary-General to ensure that all United Nations activities in Afghanistan are carried out according to the principle of non-discrimination against women and girls, and that a gender perspective and special attention to the human rights of women and girls are fully incorporated into the work of the civil affairs

unit established within the United Nations Special Mission to Afghanistan, including the training and selection of staff, and that efforts be made to enhance the role of women in preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peacekeeping;

11. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan giving special attention to the human rights of women and girls and fully incorporating a gender perspective in his work;

12. *Appeals* to States and the international community to implement the recommendations of the inter-agency gender mission to Afghanistan under the leadership of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women;

13. *Urges* all Afghan factions, in particular the Taliban, to ensure the safety and protection of all United Nations and humanitarian workers in Afghanistan and to allow them, regardless of gender, to carry out their work unhindered.

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28 February-2 March 2000
Agenda item 3 (c)
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women: implementation of strategic objectives and action in the critical areas of concern

Nigeria:* draft resolution

The situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered with appreciation the section concerning the situation of Palestinian women and assistance provided by organizations of the United Nations system of the report of the Secretary-General[1] on follow-up to and implementation of the Beijing Declaration[2] and Platform for Action,[3]

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[4] in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, and the Beijing Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women,

Also recalling its resolution 1999/15 of 28 July 1999 and other relevant United Nations resolutions,

Further recalling the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women[5] as it concerns the protection of civilian populations,

* On behalf of the States members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China in accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

[1] E/CN.6/2000/2, sect. III.A.

[2] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution. 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[5] General Assembly resolution 48/104.

00-32118 (E) 290200

Stressing the need for full implementation of the Sharm el-Sheikh Memorandum of 4 September 1999 and full compliance with the existing agreements, as well as the need for the conclusion of the final settlement by the agreed time of September 2000,

Concerned about the continuing difficult situation of Palestinian women in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and about the severe consequences of continuous illegal Israeli settlement activities, as well as the harsh economic conditions and other consequences for the situation of Palestinian women and their families resulting from the frequent closures and isolation of the occupied territory,

1. *Calls upon* the concerned parties, as well as the entire international community, to exert all the necessary efforts to ensure the continuity and success of the peace process and its conclusion by the agreed time of September 2000 and the achievement of tangible progress in the improvement of the situation of Palestinian women and their families;

2. *Reaffirms* that the Israeli occupation remains a major obstacle for Palestinian women with regard to their advancement, self-reliance and integration in the development planning of their society;

3. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply fully with the provisions and principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[6] the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention of 1907[7] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[8] in order to protect the rights of Palestinian women and their families;

4. *Calls upon* Israel to facilitate the return of all refugees and displaced Palestinian women and children to their homes and properties, in compliance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

5. *Urges* Member States, financial organizations of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and other relevant institutions to intensify their efforts to provide financial and technical assistance to Palestinian women, especially during the transitional period;

6. *Requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to monitor and take action with regard to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, and the Beijing Platform for Action;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to review the situation and to assist Palestinian women by all available means, and to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-fifth session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

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[6] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

[7] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907 (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

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28 February-2 March 2000
Agenda item 3 (c)
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women: implementation of strategic objectives and action in the critical areas of concern

Zambia:* draft resolution

Women, the girl child and human immunodeficiency virus/ acquired immunodeficiency syndrome

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recognizing that women play a vital role in the social and economic development of their countries and, therefore, profoundly concerned by the fact that out of 33.6 million people living with human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) today, women now represent 46 per cent of all people over the age of 15 living with HIV and AIDS,

Noting with great concern that the proportion of women becoming infected with HIV is growing in every region, that in sub-Saharan Africa 55 per cent of those living with HIV are women and that, in the younger age brackets (15-24 years), girls are at higher risk of HIV infection and that more girls than boys are now infected,

Recognizing that gender inequalities begin early in life and can render women and the girl child unable to protect their sexual and reproductive health, thus increasing their risk and vulnerability to HIV infection,

Mindful that the majority of women and the girl child in most developing countries do not enjoy full social and economic rights, such as education, health care and welfare, and therefore suffer disproportionately from the consequences of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, particularly in the economic and social spheres,

* On behalf of the Group of African States and in accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

00-32127 (E) 290200

Recognizing that women, who constitute the majority of the poor, are especially vulnerable to HIV infection because of their subordinate status in society, in the household and in communities and because of their restricted access to education, gainful employment and health and information services,

Also recognizing that women, in particular young girls, are physiologically and biologically more vulnerable than men to sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV, and yet receive minimal health care and support when infected,

Noting with concern that approximately 80 per cent of the infected women have been infected through unprotected sex with an infected male partner, and acknowledging therefore that men have a shared responsibility towards protecting their own and women's sexual health,

Acknowledging that millions of women do not have access to means that have proved effective in preventing and lowering infection rates, such as male and female condoms, anti-retroviral drugs, relevant preventive education, acceptable counselling and testing services,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and its co-sponsoring organizations, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization and the World Bank, to empower women through capacity development programmes, as well as programmes that provide women with access to development resources and strengthen their networks which offer care and support to women affected by HIV/AIDS,

1. *Reaffirms* the rights of women and the girl child infected and affected by HIV/AIDS to have access to health, education and social services and to be protected from all forms of discrimination, stigma, abuse and neglect;

2. *Also reaffirms* the human rights of girls and women to equal access to education, skills training and employment opportunities as a means to reduce their vulnerability to HIV infection;

3. *Urges* Governments to take all necessary measures to strengthen women's economic independence and to protect and promote their human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to allow them to better protect themselves from HIV infection;

4. *Emphasizes* that the advancement and empowerment of women is critical to increasing the ability of women and young girls to protect themselves from HIV infection;

5. *Stresses* that every effort should be made by Governments, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, individually and collectively, to place combating HIV/AIDS as a priority on the development agenda and to implement effective prevention strategies and programmes, especially for the most vulnerable populations, including women and young girls;

6. *Calls upon* the international community, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify their support of national efforts against HIV/AIDS,

particularly in favour of women and young girls, in the worst-hit regions of Africa and where the epidemic is severely setting back national development gains;

7. *Urges* Governments to take steps to create an environment that promotes compassion and support for those infected with HIV, to provide the legal framework that will protect the rights of people living with HIV/AIDS, to enable those who are vulnerable to have access to appropriate voluntary counselling services and to encourage efforts to reduce discrimination and stigmatization;

8. *Also urges* Governments, with the assistance of relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to create an environment and conditions that will take care of and support children orphaned by AIDS;

9. *Encourages* Governments to recognize the challenges facing girls and women, particularly older women, who are primary caregivers for people living with HIV/AIDS, and to provide them with the necessary economic and psychosocial support;

10. *Further urges* Governments, with the assistance of relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, to adopt a long-term, timely, coherent and integrated AIDS prevention policy, with public information and life-skills-based education programmes specifically tailored to the needs of women and girls within their sociocultural contexts and sensitivities and the specific needs in their life cycle;

11. *Encourages* Governments and civil society to support women's groups and community organizations in changing harmful traditions and practices affecting the health of women and girls and to take steps to eliminate all forms of violence against women, including rape and sexual coercion, which aggravate the conditions fostering the spread of the epidemic;

12. *Encourages* accelerated research on vaccine development and intensified additional research on promotion of the female condom, microbicides and other options that offer women more control over the protection of their reproductive and sexual health;

13. *Requests* Governments to ensure that condoms and care for sexually transmitted diseases are available in places accessible and affordable to women while ensuring their privacy;

14. *Also requests* Governments to provide comprehensive health care for women with HIV, including treatment for opportunistic diseases and reproductive health services;

15. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS in promoting sexual and reproductive health education for young people, in particular girls, while encouraging them to delay sexual initiation, and, in this context, urges that greater attention be given to the education of men and boys about their roles and their responsibilities in preventing the transmission of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS, to their partners;

16. *Urges* the Joint United Nations Programme and its co-sponsors to intensify their efforts in assisting Governments to determine the best policies and

programmes to prevent women and young girls from becoming infected with HIV/AIDS;

17. *Requests* the Joint Programme and its co-sponsors, bilateral and multilateral donors and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in their efforts to prevent HIV infection, to give urgent and priority attention to the situation of women and girls in Africa;

18. *Invites* the relevant entities of the United Nations system, including agencies, funds and programmes, to mainstream gender policies and programmes integrating HIV/AIDS activities;

19. *Takes note with appreciation* of section III.C of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[1] on women, the girl child and HIV/AIDS, and invites the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[1] E/CN.6/2000/2.